VOLUME LXIV.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 20, 1863.

NUMBER 44.

PUBLISHED (DAILY) BY EDGAR SNOWDEN, JR. 76 OFFICE-No. 104 King street, over ione's, (formerly French's) Book Store.

THE CARVINAL OF THE DAY.-New York, just now, seems to roll in Wealth, -and even the Poor, in their Savings Banks, are rich .-Never before was so much money in the Saving Banks, and never before did the rich more run riot and revel in wealth.

On Tuesday, closed the Carnival of New York, and the scenes of gladness, amusement, fun and frolic have seldom before been equalled in this city. The Matinees of the Fashionables by day have been numerous, and the Soirees, Balls, &c., of these Fashionables, by night, have been more numerous than they ever were before. Ten Soirces, or Parties, or Balls, have been given, on an average, on a single night; for the week past, ending this, Ash-Wednesday. Some of these Balls cost as much as \$1,500, perhaps more,—with music and flowers, and feast. The nouveau riche are now hosts: The parvenus of yesterday are the Grandees of to-day. New men, and new women, have sprung forth, in new attire, and the Pearls and Corals of the seas, as well as the mines of the Diamond and of California, are all drawn upon to fit up, and fit out, these new women and children. Wealth is on all sides exuberant. What was happening in France, in the days of John Law, is happening in New York. We are all rich together .-Everything on our hands is running to wealth. We go into Wall street in rags, and come out in gold. We go to the Wharves with Pennies, and come back laden with Eagles. We buy a lot to-day, sell it to-morrow, and have esined enough to live on a year. We chase down the rag man, or the bag man,—the poor German, with his ash cart and dogs, or the horse bone hunter, and before we can catch him,-if he runs fast,—he turns out to be a half John Jacob Astor. Long live the era!—the glorious era! Never before were such a People, -never such an era! - N. Y. Express.

Representative Good, said yesterday in the U. S. House of Representatives, by instruction of the Committee on the Conduct of the War, of which he is a member, that the recently published statement that Gen. Meigs refused 16 testify to the treason of an officer whom he has been favoring, is without foundation; and, with the same authority, an emphatic denial is given to the truth of another statement that General McClellan has been summoned before the same Committee to meet grave charges.

Owing to the improved public confidence in the freedom from interruption of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad between Washington and the West, via Harper's Ferry and Cumberland, an additional daily through passenger train, making all the connections westward, has just been established, with sleeping cars attached. Eight passenger trains now run daily from Washington to Baltimore, four of which are for New York.

The N. Y. Times, of yesterday, expresses the opinion that the U.S. is on the eve of a war with France, and calls upon Congress not to adjourn without having made full provision for seaport towns in a condition for defence.

The Siege at Vicksburg.

IN SIGHT OF VICKSBURG, Feb. 5.—The river is rising rapidly, and now it runs like a mill race. River men tell us there is a "big rise" still to come, and that the eatire point from Milliken's Bend to Vicksburg will soon become a broad sheet of water. I am not wise in river lore, and must accept their conclusions. They say the melting of the snow in Ohio and Kentucky will very seriously affect the Mississipi, already "on a bender." In this region, near Young's Point, there are three crevasses or breaks in the levee, through which the water is rushing at a furious rate. The larger one is in the Parish of Madison, La., a little this side of Gen. McArthur's headquarters, and already exceeds 500 feet in width. The General has a large portion of his command engaged, just now, in endeavoring to stop it, with a prospect of success if the water does not further rise. Should it increase in height, I fear the Parish levee will yield to the pressure, as the State levee has already done. In that event we shall be forced to embark the soldiers on transports and seek dry land above.

In the debate, in the House of Representatives, yesterday, Mr. Holman said: "When the proposition was presented to this House by the distinguished leading Republican (Mr. Conway) for the recognition of the Southern Confederacy, there was no cry of treason.

"Mr. Conway replied, that the gentleman had charged him with proposing to divide the Union. This was a misrepresentation. He had never made any such proposition. He declared that the war had already divided the Union, and he was in favor of resuming peace on the basis of existing facts. This was his position. He was in favor of the integrity of the Union as it exists to-day, and opposed to all schemes of disintegration.

Mr. Holman replied that the only difference was that the gentleman said the war had already divided the Union, while he (Mr. Holman) said the gentleman proposed to do so."

Baker's detectives on Wednesday arrested at Berlin, Md., A. T. M. Filler and Joel Mann, of Loudoun county, Va., with \$8,000 Confederate money upon them, directed to the Right Rev. Dr. Magill, at Richmond; a large number of letters for various parties at the South, among them one from L. Johnson, of Frederick, Md., who was sending the \$8,000 South, requesting Dr. Magill to purchase \$8,000 worth of Confederate 8 per ct. bonds with the money. They had \$800 worth of contraband goods in their wagon brought from Baltimore with passes from the military authorities there They are now in the Old Capitol prison. -Wrapped around the body of Joel Mann were found a thick coating of silk handkerchiefs, spool cotton, cutlery, etc.

Returned cotton buyers report that the Legislature of Mississippi have made it a penal offence to sell cotton except to the Confederate Government.

The N. Y. Senate, having refused to concur with the Assembly, in its invitation to Gen. McClellan, to become the guest of the State, other parties have taken the matter in hand. The Corporation of Albany have ex-Strengthening the navy, and for putting the tended the invitation which the Senate with-I held.

U. S. Congress.—In the Senate, yesterday, a remonstrance was presented from the members of the bar of the District of Columbia against the proposed change in the organization of the courts of the District. The House amendment to the miscellaneous appropriation bill relating to the mileage of members, was rejected. The naval appropriation bill was amended and passed. The bill to organize the territorial government of Arizona was taken up, but not disposed of. In the House, the consideration of the bill to indemnify the President for the suspension of the habeas corpus, and for other purposes, was resumed, and the Senate's amendments were non-concurred in, and a committee of conference asked. The bill for the removal of the Winnebago Indians was passed. In the evening session, the Senate's currency bill was called up, and discussed until adjournment.

The correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer, with Gen. Sigel's command, has been arrested, by order of Gen. Hooker, at Stafford Court House, and taken to Folmouth. He is charged with having sent incorrect and exaggerated reports of recent movements.

Yesterday afternoon, during the visit of Gen. Butler to Fort Marshall, on the eastern confines of Baltimore, an accident occurred which resulted in the death of Commander Maxwell Woodhull, of the U.S. navy, in command of the gunboat Cimerone. On the arrival of the military visitors, the usual military salute was fired. Gen. Schenck and staff, and several members of the City Council, were present, and, with Commander Woodhull, were walking around the parapet, when one of the guns used in firing the salute was prematurely discharged. Commander Woodhull was immediately in front of it at the time, and only a lew feet distant, and the whole charge took effect in the lower part of the abdomen, completely tearing him to pieces, and causing instant death.

The Secretary of the U.S. Treasury, in reply to a resolution from the House calling for information respecting the expenses for the support of slaves, &c., in the Sea Island cotton districts of South Carolina, from the commencement of the war, states that there was expended for agricultural implements, \$77,081: purchase of schooner Flora, \$31,350; white labor, \$82,748; colored labor, \$34,577-total expenses, \$225,705. From this expedition has been realized \$726,984, leaving a balance of \$501,279. This was up to June last. Since then the charge of this matter has been transferred to the War Department.

Gen. Wool has requested the police to ascertain the number and description of fire arms, and quantity of ammunition in N. York, and the inquiry is now being carried out.

The N. Y. World thinks, if the emancipation proclamation was revoked, a perfect union of sentiment could be effected at the North.